Welcome to 4/5P
Term 1– 2016

Dear 4/5P Parents,

My name is Ian Phillips and I am delighted to be teaching your child in 2016. Welcome to 4/5P! We have a great term planned and are looking forward to Swimming Scheme for Year 4 and School Camp for Year 5. I look forward to meeting you during the year and I am excited to be working with your wonderful children.

**Dates for Term 1:**

Week 3: Homework begins
Meet the Teacher Evening

Week 4: Swim Scheme-Year 4-Collaroy Rock Pool (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri –Water safety at school on Tues)

Week 7: School Camp-Year 5(7/3/16 - 11/3/16)

Week 10: Athletics carnival

Week 11: Parent-Teacher Interviews

**Timetable**

- Monday: Library After recess (Please remember to bring in a library bag each week) & Computers
- Wednesday: Scripture, Mandarin and writing activities with Ms Garden
- Thursday: Science
- Friday: Sport

**English**

**Speaking and Listening** Students are encouraged to create speeches and engage in debating through our literacy group activities on a weekly basis. Prepared public speaking topics are set each term.

**Reading** Students read for 20 minutes each day as part of the home reading program, beginning Week 3. We will also be looking at comprehension strategies, with a particular focus on Super 6, to assist our reading and understanding.

**Writing** Students will learn to write different types of text and also learn the purpose of a piece of writing. Students will be given opportunities to engage in writing 2-3 times a week. nThis includes a session with Ms garden each Wednesday after lunch.

**Mathematics**
In Maths, our activities will start with an emphasis on Whole Number followed by addition and subtraction strategies. We will have a focus on times table challenges each week. It would be great if you could challenge your children to a speed test at home!

**Human Society and its Environment**

Students will be studying the theme, “Identity” this term.

**PDHPE**

Our focus this term is on Road Safety. Sport is on a Friday and we are encouraged to wear our full sports uniform to school. Students also (if selected) participate in PSSA sport at various venues.

**Homework**

Homework will start in Week 3. It will be given out on a Monday and due back on a Friday. If the week has been particularly busy, and cannot be completed for some reason, please write a brief explanatory note. Homework will consist of a personalised list to practise each day with look/cover/write/check and other tasks, reading, a unit of Mentals and a times table challenge. There will be a project which will be due later in the term. There may also be Reading Eggs and Mathletics tasks assigned.

**Inquiry-Based Learning**

Our class will be piloting inquiry-based learning scenarios and exciting student-lead work. This term our focus will be on Road Safety. This unit encompasses skills from the Solution Fluency, Information Fluency, Creativity Fluency and Collaboration Fluency strands of Modern Learning. Later in the year we will be looking at a History unit. Stay tuned!

**21st Century Learning**

We are looking at decorating our classroom in a manner that promotes working in various ways and trying to steer away from the traditional desk work. Creating spaces such as standing areas and cushions, mats, bean bags, exercise balls and couches would brighten up our room immensely. If you have any of these lying around at home that are still in a reasonable condition we would love to take donations. Please send me an email with a photo and measurements and we’ll see if it fits.

Later in the year, 4/SP will be utilising an App called Seesaw. This is a secure method of sharing work with you directly and they will be able to produce a portfolio of work in which they can look back on throughout the year. There will be more information on this in coming weeks.

Please contact me regarding any concerns by letter, in person or at school on 99137077.

Kind regards,

Ian Phillips

4/SP Classroom Teacher